

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing media transmission latency by suppressing silence frames in a stream of media, the method comprising:
 - requesting a group call at a first communication device;
 - receiving a stream of media over a first communications channel from the first communication device, wherein said stream of media comprises of one or more silence frames; and
 - automatically suppressing the one or more silence frames from the received stream of media regardless of a channel latency on the first communication channel.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing an initial silence frame situated before a first media frame.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing all initial silence frames situated before a first media frame.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing a silence frame situated between two successive media frames.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said suppressing a silence frame includes suppressing the silence frame that is in access of a predetermined number of silence frames situated between the two successive media frames.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said suppressing the silence frame includes suppressing the silence frame that follows a first predetermined number of silence frame following a first media frame and precedes a second predetermined number of silence frame proceeding a media frame subsequent to the first media frame.
7. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium embodying a set of instructions, wherein the set of instructions when executed by one or more processors comprises:
 - a set of instructions for requesting a group call at a first communication device;
 - a set of instructions for receiving a stream of media over a first communications channel from the first communication device,

a set of instructions for receiving a stream of media from the first communication device; and

a set of instructions for automatically suppressing one or more silence frames from the received stream of media regardless of a channel latency on the first communication channel.

8. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing an initial silence frame situated before a first media frame.

9. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing all initial silence frames situated before a first media frame.

10. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing a silence frame situated between two successive media frames.

11. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein said suppressing a silence frame includes suppressing the silence frame that is in access of a predetermined number of silence frames situated between the two successive media frames.

12. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein said suppressing the silence frame includes suppressing the silence frame that follows a first predetermined number of silence frame following a first media frame and precedes a second predetermined number of silence frame proceeding a media frame subsequent to the first media frame.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reducing media transmission latency by suppressing silence frames in a stream of media, comprising:

means for requesting a group call at a first communication device;

means for receiving a stream of media over a first communications channel from the first communication device, wherein said stream of media comprises of one or more silence frames; and

means for automatically suppressing the one or more silence frames from the received stream of media regardless of a channel latency on the first communication channel.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said means for suppressing includes means for suppressing an initial silence frame situated before a first media frame.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said means for suppressing includes means for suppressing all initial silence frames situated before a first media frame.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said means for suppressing includes means for suppressing a silence frame situated between two successive media frames.
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said means for suppressing a silence frame includes means for suppressing the silence frame that is in access of a predetermined number of silence frames situated between the two successive media frames.
18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said means for suppressing the silence frame includes means for suppressing the silence frame that follows a first predetermined number of silence frame following a first media frame and precedes a second predetermined number of silence frame proceeding a media frame subsequent to the first media frame.
19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reducing media transmission latency by suppressing silence frames in a stream of media, comprising:
 - a receiver capable of receiving information;
 - a transmitter capable of transmitting information; and
 - a processor for automatically suppressing silence frames in a stream of media regardless of a channel latency on a first communication channel wherein:
 - a stream of media is received from a user over the first communications channel;
 - and the silence frame[[s]] from the received stream of media is suppressed.
20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing an initial silence frame situated before a first media frame.
21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing all initial silence frames situated before a first media frame.
22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said suppressing includes suppressing a silence frame situated between two successive media frames.
23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein said suppressing a silence frame includes suppressing the silence frame that is in access of a predetermined number of silence frames situated between the two successive media frames.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said suppressing the silence frame includes suppressing the silence frame that follows a first predetermined number of silence frame following a first media frame and precedes a second predetermined number of silence frame proceeding a media frame subsequent to the first media frame.
25. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting the suppressed stream of media over a second communication channel.
26. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the automatically suppressing is independent of a channel latency on the second communication channel.
27. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 7 further comprising a set of instructions for transmitting the suppressed stream of media over a second communication channel.
28. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein said automatically suppressing is independent of a channel latency on the second communication channel.
29. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising means for transmitting the suppressed stream of media over a second communication channel.
30. (New) The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the automatically suppressing is independent of a channel latency on the second communication channel.
31. (New) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the processor further transmits the suppressed stream of media over a second communication channel.
32. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the automatically suppressing is independent of a channel latency on the second communication channel.